GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:341
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2005
RAIL NEER
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the `Rail Neer`, a packaged drinking water, is manufactured by the Railways;

(b) if so, the total quantity of `Rail Neer` sold/supplied by Railways to its catering units and its vendors/customers during each of the last three years;

(c) the quantity of packaged drinking water of other brands sold by Railway catering units/Pantry Car Services during the said period;

(d) whether there is any proposal to sell only Rail Neer drinking water in Railway catering units/dining car service ,

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and

(g) the existing norms to check the quality of Rail Neer and drinking water of other brands sold/supplied in Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALUPRASAD)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 341 BY SHRI HEMLAL MURMU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.12.2005 REGARDING RAIL NEER.

(a): `Rail Neer`, a packaged drinking water, is manufactured by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), a folly owned Government of India undertaking under the Ministry of Railways.

(b): The details of Rail Neer supplied to departmental catering units and licensees of Railways/IRCTC since 2003 are as per Appendix-I.

(c): The details of packaged drinking water of other brands supplied to departmental catering units and pantry cars since 2003 are as per Appendix-II.

(d): Rail Neer has been decided to be the exclusive brand of packaged drinking water to be procured and sold by the departmental and private licensee operated catering units on the premises of Indian Railways including on trains, subject to availability and supply of the same from IRCTC. Installation of Rail Neer plants and supply therefrom are being implemented in a phased manner. At present IRCTC owns two plants, one located at Nangloi, Delhi and the other at Danapur, Bihar. Each of these plants is having a production capacity of 6000 cartons (containing 12 bottles of 1 litre), per day for 27 days in a month, i.e., 1,62, 000 cartons per month on three-shift basis.

(e): The details of stations and trains where Rail Neer is sold, is enclosed as per Appendix- III.

(f): Does not arise in view of (d) above.

(g): Rail Neer is produced in `state of the art` plants having Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification. The quality parameters of BIS are continuously monitored and periodically tested from BIS approved National Accreditation Board for Testing and calibration Laboratory labs on rotation basis. Packaged drinking water of other brands procured and sold on Indian Railways has also to comply with the specifications of BIS. Railways conduct frequent sample checks for other brands also under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) and stern action is taken including banning the brand for procurement on Railways.